

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1.-94. (canceled)
95. (currently amended) A ~~nucleic acid analysis system composition~~, comprising:
- a) a target nucleic acid, said target nucleic acid comprising a first region and a second region, said second region downstream of said first region;
  - b) a first oligonucleotide comprising a 3' portion and a 5' portion;
  - c) a second oligonucleotide; and
  - d) a third oligonucleotide comprising a hairpin structure comprising a duplex region and a single-stranded region;
- wherein at least said 3' portion of said first oligonucleotide is complementary to said first region of said target nucleic acid, wherein at least a portion of said second oligonucleotide is complementary to said second region of said target nucleic acid, and wherein said 5' portion of said first oligonucleotide is complementary to said at least a portion of said third oligonucleotide.
96. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 95, wherein said third oligonucleotide comprises a label.
97. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 96, wherein said label comprises a fluorophore.
98. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim ~~95~~ 96, wherein said label comprises a fluorophore having quenched emission.

99. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim ~~95~~ 96, wherein said label is selected from the group consisting of biotin, a radiolabel, a hapten, a detectable nucleic acid, a peptide, a chromophore, and a dye.

100. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 95, further comprising a solid support attached to at least one of said first, second and third oligonucleotides.

101. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 100, wherein said first oligonucleotide is attached to said solid support.

102. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 100, wherein said second oligonucleotide is attached to said solid support.

103. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 100, wherein said third oligonucleotide is attached to said solid support.

104. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 95, wherein said first and said second regions of said target nucleic acid are adjacent to each other.

105. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 95, wherein said portion of said second oligonucleotide complementary to said second region of said target nucleic acid comprises a 3' terminus.

106. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 95, wherein said single stranded region of said hairpin structure of third oligonucleotide comprises a single-stranded 3' arm adjacent to said duplex region of said hairpin structure.

107. (currently amended) The ~~system composition~~ of Claim 106, wherein said portion of said third oligonucleotide that is complementary to said 5' portion of said first oligonucleotide comprises at least a region of said single-stranded 3' arm of said hairpin structure.

108. (currently amended) The ~~system~~composition of Claim 107, wherein said region of said single-stranded 3' arm is adjacent to said duplex region of said hairpin structure.

109-123 (canceled)